

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. In Halle, the Interpreters' School (Dolmetscherschule) developed from a pre-war institution of the same character. It is now under the jurisdiction of the Export Division of the Central Administration, Wiko (Wirtschaftskommando) Section. All modern languages are taught; there are no short courses.
2. Students receive Class I ration cards, normally reserved for heavy laborers. In contrast to the Leipzig Language School, they do not serve as interpreters at public functions. Most students come from middle-class families; 75 percent are SED, ten percent LDP, seven percent CDU, and eight percent without party. Maximum age for admission is thirty.
3. The director of the school is Professor Dr. Koch, a former counselor of legation. He is soon to be retired because of age (he is 72), but plans to open an independent translating bureau. His successor has not yet been named. Russian is taught by Bachmann and Engelmann, both German-Russians from the German colonies near Odessa.

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Comment: Because of the high ration cards of students and the close connection with the Russian Zone government, it has been suspected that this school is used as an agent selection center by the Russians. The same suspicion has been advanced concerning the Leipzig Language school, although it does not offer the same advantages in rations (Class IV cards only).)

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